Tirupati
Vijayawada
Visakhapatnam

LPTs

Adilabad
Adoni
Alagadda
Amalapuram
Atmakur
Bhadrachalam
Bheemadolu
Bheemavaram
Chittoor
Cuddapah
Emmiganur
Gadwal
Giddalur
Guntakal
Hindupur
Jagtial
Kakinada
Kamareddy
Karimnagar
Kavali
Khammam
Kosgi
Kothagudam
Kuppam
Kurnool
L.R. Pally
Madhira
Madnapalli
Mandassa
Medak
Mehboobnagar
Nagar Kurnool
Nalgonda
Norayanpet
Nellore
Nirmal
Nizamabad
Ongole
Produttur
Rajamundry
Ramagundam
Siddipet
Srikakulam
Tandur
Visakhapatnam
Wanaparthy
Warangal
Yellandu
Hyderabad (DD II)

VLPTs

Chintapalli
Icchapuram
Paderu
Parwatipuram
Srisailam

Transposer

Vijayawada

[Translation]

Setting up of Base Depot

5556. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT :
SHRI VISHVESHWAR BHAGAT :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the number of base depots of Food Corporation of India for supplying foodgrains under the Public Distribution System and revamped Public Distribution System, State/Union Territory-wise;

(b) whether these base depots are sufficient to meet requirement;

(c) if not, whether the Union Government propose to set up more base depots; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, State/Union Territory-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Reduction in ISD Charges

5557. SHRI K.S. RAYADU : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Singapore have reduced the ISD charges from Singapore to India; and

(b) if so, whether the Government also propose to reduce the rates of ISD to various countries and Singapore in particular to boost overall competitiveness ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Department of Telecommunications has already introduced concessional rates for ISD calls to all countries including Singapore during off-peak period i.e. between 2300 Hrs. and 0600 Hrs. with effect from 1st June, 1995.

Nickel

5558. SHRI SOUMYA RANJAN : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of nickel plant in the country, location-wise;

(b) the approximate quantity reserve during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) whether the import of nickel was made during the aforesaid period;

(d) if so, the foreign exchange spent on import thereto;

(e) whether the Government have any proposal to set up new plants in various States; and

(f) if so, the details thereof, location-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) Presently there is no extraction plant of Nickel from nickel ore in the country.

(b) As per National Mineral Inventory prepared by IBM as on 1.4.90, the total 294 MT of Nickel ore (0.5% to 0.9%) is estimated in the country.

(c) and (d) The value of nickel imported during the last 3 years are as follows :-

Year	Value in Rs. '000
1993-94	1395882
1994-95	2310533
1995-96 (Prov.)	2837925

(e) and (f) The Hindustan Zinc Ltd. with Council of Scientific and Industrial Research have signed an MOU on 3rd September, 1996 for setting up a technology proving plant for extraction of nickel from the chromite over burden.

Privatisation of Sukhinda Mines in Orissa

5559. SHRI CHITTA BASU :
SHRI BRAHMANAND MANDAL :

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Mineral Development Corporation, Orissa has proposed to develop the chrome deposit in Sukhinda Mines, Orissa;

(b) if so, the details therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to privatise the said mines; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) to (d) Mineral concessions are granted as per provisions of Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957 and rules made thereunder. Any decision in the instant case has to be taken by the Government in accordance with the judgement dated 4.4.1995 of Hon'ble High Court of Orissa in O.J.C. Nos. 7729/93, 4701/94, 3825/94, 5422/94 and 7054/94 etc. and Hon'ble Supreme Court judgement dated 23.7.1996 in S.L.P. Nos. 10838/95, 11391/95, 11392/92 etc.

[Translation]

Temporary Accommodation for MPs

5560. SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the arrangements for the temporary accommodation for Members of Parliament made in Lodhi Hotel are not suitable for them;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the comparative profit of Lodhi Hotel in regard to the other hotels ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The management of Lodhi Hotel is providing satisfactory services to the guests including Members of Parliament staying in the hotel and no written complaint has been received by the Hotel Management from the Members of Parliament of the eleventh Lok Sabha who have stayed/staying in this hotel.

(c) The profitability of Lodhi Hotel is not directly comparable with the other hotels of ITDC in Delhi due to its old structure and design and its three-star-category. Nonetheless Lodhi Hotel has shown a profit of Rs. 77.66 lakhs for the year 1995-96.

Non-Utilisation of Amount

5561. SHRI O.P. JINDAL :
SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHARY :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the funds allocated for the rehabilitation of handicapped persons in rural areas during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) the total amount spent out of it so far;

(c) whether the Government have not spent any money from the amount during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government propose to spend this amount on the rehabilitation of the handicapped before the Eighth Plan period is over; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?